

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (canceled)

2. (currently amended) A method of controlling data packet flows in a network device by manipulating data packets according to an actual manipulation rate,
comprising:

receiving data packets;

amongst the received data packets identifying data packets that are marked with a pattern according to a congestion notification scheme;

determining a pattern rate of data packets comprising the pattern; and

determining the actual manipulation rate dependent on the pattern rate by the steps of; ~~according to claim 1,~~
~~comprising~~

determining a first manipulation rate representing an actual rate of data packets manipulated on a route from transmitters of the data packets to respective receivers via the network device;

determining a second manipulation rate representing an actual rate of data packets manipulated on a route from the transmitters to the network device;

determining a third manipulation rate representing an actual rate of data packets manipulated on a route from the network device to the receivers; and

determining the actual manipulation rate dependent on the first manipulation rate, the second manipulation rate and the third manipulation rate;

wherein at least one of the first, second or third manipulation rate is based on a pattern rate.

3. (currently amended) A method of controlling data packet flows in a network device by manipulating data packets according to an actual manipulation rate, comprising:

receiving data packets;

amongst the received data packets identifying data packets that are marked with a pattern according to a congestion notification scheme;

determining a pattern rate of data packets comprising the pattern; and

determining the actual manipulation rate dependent on the pattern rate; ~~according to claim 1, comprising~~

determining a congestion experienced pattern rate of data packets comprising a congestion experienced pattern indicating a congestion; and

determining a second manipulation rate dependent on the congestion experienced pattern rate.

4. (original) A method according to claim 3, wherein the second manipulation rate is represented by the congestion experienced pattern rate.

5. (currently amended) A method according to ~~claim 1~~
claim 2 comprising

determining a congestion reaction pattern rate of data packets comprising a congestion reaction pattern indicating a reaction that was taken upon a congestion;

determining a fourth manipulation rate representing a previous rate of data packets manipulated on a route from transmitters of the data packets to respective receivers via the network device, the fourth manipulation rate being dependent on the congestion reaction pattern rate.

determining the first manipulation rate dependent on the fourth manipulation rate.

6-7. (canceled)

8. (currently amended) A method of controlling data packet flows in a network device by manipulating data packets according to an actual manipulation rate,
comprising:

receiving data packets;
amongst the received data packets identifying data packets that are marked with a pattern according to a congestion notification scheme;
determining a pattern rate of data packets comprising the pattern; and
determining the actual manipulation rate dependent on the pattern rate by according to claim 1, comprising
determining a first manipulation rate dependent on a given link rate, the link rate specifying an optimum rate of data packets to be handled by the network device.

9. (currently amended) A method according to claim 5
~~claim 1~~, wherein a third manipulation rate is determined by a fifth manipulation rate; the fifth manipulation rate representing a rate of data packets previously dropped on a route from the network device to the receivers.

10. (currently amended) A method according to claim 9,
~~Wherein~~ wherein a fifth manipulation rate is determined by
the fourth manipulation rate; a previous manipulation rate
representing data packets being previously manipulated by
the network device, and a sixth manipulation rate
representing a previous rate of data packets dropped on a
route from the transmitters to the network device.

11. (original) A method according to claim 10, wherein the
previous manipulation rate and the sixth manipulation rate
are stored in the network device.

12. (original) A method of controlling data packet flows
in a network device by manipulating data packets according
to an actual manipulation rate, comprising:

determining a first manipulation rate representing an
actual rate of data packets manipulated on a route from
transmitters of the data packets to respective receivers
via the network device;

determining a second manipulation rate representing an
actual rate of data packets manipulated on a route from the
transmitters to the network device;

determining a third manipulation rate representing an actual rate of data packets manipulated on a route from the network device to the receivers; and

determining the actual manipulation rate dependent on the first manipulation rate, the second manipulation rate and the third manipulation rate.

13. (original) A method according to claim 12, comprising:

amongst received data packets identifying data packets that are marked with a pattern according to a congestion notification scheme;

determining a pattern rate of data packets comprising the pattern; and

determining at least one of the first, second or third manipulation rate dependent on a pattern rate.

14-18. (canceled)